



JOINT NEWS RELEASE

FIVE MEN ARRESTED FOR SMUGGLING OF DUTY-UNPAID CIGARETTES

The Police have arrested five men, aged between 30 and 47, for their involvement in smuggling duty-unpaid cigarettes.

2 On 13 October 2026, officers from the Police Coast Guard (PCG) and Police Intelligence Department conducted an operation in the vicinity of Marina South Wharf and arrested five men for their involvement in a vessel-to-shore contraband smuggling. A total of 238 cartons and 120 packets of duty-unpaid cigarettes were seized during the operation.

3 During the operation, PCG officers arrested a 44-year-old Indonesian man at the shore, and three Indonesian men, aged between 30 and 36, were arrested onboard a Singapore-flagged vessel moored at the area. A 47-year-old Singaporean man was also arrested during the operation for his involvement in the transportation of the duty-unpaid cigarettes. The duty-unpaid cigarettes-related offences have been referred to Singapore Customs.

4 Under the Customs Act and the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Act, buying, selling, conveying, delivering, storing, keeping, possessing or dealing in duty-unpaid cigarettes are serious offences. Offenders can be fined up to 20 times the amount of duty and GST evaded and/or jailed for up to two years. The vessel used in committing the offences will be seized for investigation.

5 Members of the public with information on smuggling activities or duty or GST evasion can report it to Singapore Customs at <https://go.gov.sg/reportcustomsoffence>.

SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE

SINGAPORE CUSTOMS

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Photo of seized duty-unpaid cigarettes

